

## OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR AMERICAN SAMOA GOVERNMENT

## PROCLAMATION "AMERICAN SAMOA'S 62<sup>nd</sup> CONSTITUTION DAY"

- WHEREAS, the Constitution of American Samoa serves as a physical representation of the hopes and dreams our forebears had for the future of this territory; and
- WHEREAS, it was adopted by a Constitutional Convention in April of 1960 and approved by the Secretary of Interior on April 27 of that same year; and
- WHEREAS, after becoming effective on October 17, 1960, the Constitution has continued to remain relevant in its ability to respond to changing times; and
- WHEREAS, a strict constitutional amendment process ensures the greatness of this territory will never lay in the hands of singular person, but rather a full and active community of informed and engaged individuals willing to work through this democratic process; and
- WHEREAS, to mirror the amendment pathway and encourage active citizenry in our youth, the American Samoa Department of Education held a Student-Led Constitutional Convention on April 12, 2022, with plans to conduct a Student Referendum on October 19, 2022; and
- WHEREAS, Executive Order 001-2022 created a Constitutional Review Committee to determine whether the Constitution was in tune with the range of political, economic, social, environmental, technological, and demographic conditions in American Samoa; and
- WHEREAS, Executive Order 006-2022 called for the convening of the 6<sup>th</sup> Constitutional Convention of American Samoa from August 29, 2022 to September 2, 2022; and
- WHEREAS, the 6<sup>th</sup> Constitutional Convention of American Samoa, made up of 129 delegates from all counties of our territory, approved a total of 11 amendments to be voted on by all eligible electors on November 8<sup>th</sup>, 2022; and
- WHEREAS, today, this month, and forevermore we reflect on our unalienable rights and enduring principles preserved and protected within our Constitution.
- **NOW, THEREFORE, I, TALAUEGA E. V. ALE,** Acting Governor of the Territory of American Samoa, do hereby proclaim the 17th day of October as "American Samoa Constitution Day." I encourage the community to observe this day with appropriate programs, ceremonies, and activities.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto affixed my signature and the Seal of my office on this 14th day of 0 cooper, in the year of our Lord two thousand twenty-two.

TALAUEGA E. V. ALE

Acting Governor